

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-14 have been rejected. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims have been appropriately amended. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Murthy et al. (U.S. 2005/0055355). Moreover, claims 1-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suver (U.S. Patent Number 6,016,497) in view of Murthy. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-14 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

In independent claims 1 and 8, each object has an associated type in a hierarchy of types. The claims have been amended to include the features of each type having an identifier and being extensible using an inheritance extension. (see application, as originally filed, paragraphs [0070] – [0071], for example). These features are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art, taken alone or in combination.

Murthy describes storing, accessing, and managing XML data along with evaluation of XPath queries. Although Murthy describes paths and identifiers, Murthy is completely silent regarding types that are extensible using an inheritance extension.

Suver describes accessing and storing information embedded in a column of a database row, and may be used for data that is logically multi-valued or hierarchical. When a row is stored, each column includes information such as a column identifier, a column data type identifier, and a column data value corresponding to the information of the data item (column 9, lines 22-25). However, there is no teaching or suggestion of any type being extensible using an inheritance extension.

Based on the foregoing, claims 1 and 8 and all claims dependent therefrom, including claims 2-7 and 9-14 should not be rejected as being anticipated by Murthy and/or rejected as being unpatentable over Suver and Murthy. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims

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1, 3-8, and 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), and claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murthy in view of Chau et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,643,633). Claim 2 is dependent from claim 1, and claim 9 is dependent from claim 8, and are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above. Chau fails to cure the deficiencies of Murthy. Chau is directed to storing fragmented XML data into a relational database by decomposing XML documents with application specific mappings. However, Chau is completely silent regarding a hierarchy of types, each type having an identifier and being extensible using an inheritance extension.

Based on the foregoing, claims 2 and 9 should not be rejected as being unpatentable over Murthy in view of Chau. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 2 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

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